

Amendments to the Claims:

Please replace the pending claims with the following claims:

1. (withdrawn) A method for combating *Streptococcus phocae* infection in fish comprising administering a vaccine to fish, wherein the vaccine comprises bacteria of the species *Streptococcus phocae*.
2. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein the fish are salmonids.
3. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 2, wherein the fish are Atlantic salmon.
4. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein the bacteria are in an inactivated form.
5. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein said vaccine further comprises
 - i) additional fish-pathogenic microorganism,
 - ii) addition fish-pathogenic virus, or
 - iii) an antigen of (i) or (ii).
6. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 5, wherein the additional fish-pathogenic microorganism or virus is selected from the group consisting of *Vibrio ordalii*, *Vibrio anguillarum* serotype O1, *Vibrio anguillarum* serotype O2, *Aeromonas salmonicida*, *Flavobacterium columnarae*, *Flexibacter maritimum*, *Edwardsiella ictaluri*, *Edwardsiella tarda*, *Photobacterium damsela* subspecies *piscidida*, *Flavobacterium psychrophilum*, *Moritella viscosa*, *Piscirickettsia salmonis*,

Yersinia ruckeri, *Vibrio salmonicida*, Infectious Pancreatic Necrotic Disease virus, Infectious Salmon Anaemia virus and Salmon Pancreatic Disease virus.

7. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein the vaccine further comprises an adjuvant.
8. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein said vaccine is in a freeze-dried form.
9. (cancelled)
10. (withdrawn) A method for the production of a vaccine for combating *Streptococcus phocae* infection, said method comprising the mixing of bacteria of the species *Streptococcus phocae* in a live attenuated or inactivated form and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
11. (cancelled)
12. (withdrawn) The method of claim 1, wherein said bacteria are in a live attenuated or inactivated form, and wherein said vaccine comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
13. (currently amended) A vaccine comprising bacteria of the species *Streptococcus phocae* and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.
14. (previously presented) The vaccine according to claim 13, wherein the bacteria are in an inactivated form.
15. (previously presented) The vaccine according to claim 13, wherein the bacteria are in a live attenuated form.

16. (previously presented) The vaccine according to claim 13, wherein the vaccine further comprises

- i) additional fish-pathogenic microorganism,
- ii) addition fish-pathogenic virus, or
- iii) an antigen of (i) or (ii).

17. (previously presented) The vaccine according to claim 16, wherein the additional fish-pathogenic microorganism or virus is selected from the group consisting of *Vibrio ordalii*, *Vibrio anguillarum* serotype O1, *Vibrio anguillarum* serotype O2, *Aeromonas salmonicida*, *Flavobacterium columnarae*, *Flexibacter maritimum*, *Edwardsiella ictaluri*, *Edwardsiella tarda*, *Photobacterium damsela* subspecies *piscidida*, *Flavobacterium psychrophilum*, *Moritella viscosa*, *Piscirickettsia salmonis*, *Yersinia ruckeri*, *Vibrio salmonicida*, Infectious Pancreatic Necrotic Disease virus, Infectious Salmon Anaemia virus and Salmon Pancreatic Disease virus.

18. (previously presented) The vaccine according to claim 13, wherein the vaccine further comprises an adjuvant.

19. (previously presented) The vaccine according to claim 13, wherein the vaccine is in a freeze-dried form.

20. (previously presented) The vaccine according to claim 13, wherein the vaccine further comprises a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

21. (withdrawn) The method according to claim 1, wherein the bacteria are in a live attenuated form.